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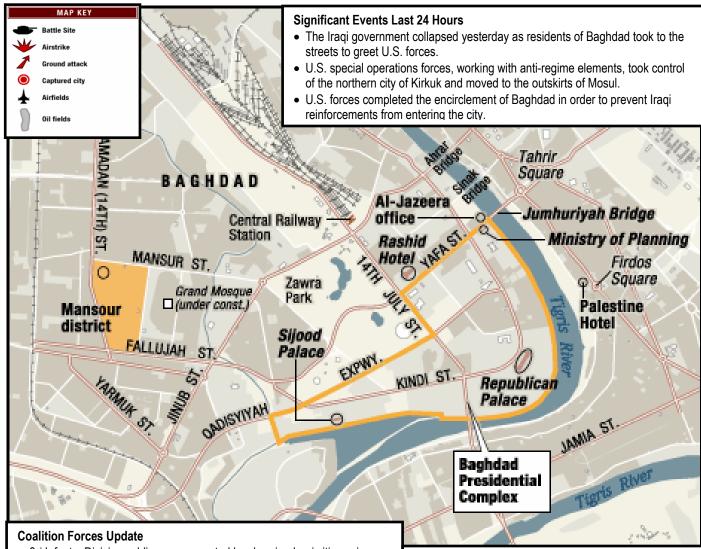


House Armed Services Committee



DAILY SUMMARY – OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Current as of 12:00 p.m. EST April 10, 2003



- 3rd Infantry Division soldiers were greeted by cheering Iraqi citizens in Baghdad on Wednesday. Elements of the division engaged in a fight with Iraqi paramilitary forces and Arab volunteers from Syria and Lebanon at a mosque in central Baghdad.
- Marines advanced rapidly into downtown Baghdad from the southeast, engaging in a brief battle in the vicinity of Baghdad University. Marines captured the abandoned home of Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz and helped Iraqi residents tear down a statue of Saddam Hussein in Firdaus Square.
- Anti-regime elements, supported by U.S. special operations forces, have captured some 286 villages in northern Iraq, and have moved into Kirkuk and to the outskirts of Mosul.
- U.S. special operations forces clashed with Iraqi forces near the western town of Qa'im on the Syrian border, where some U.S. officials believe there are regime officials trying to leave the country.
- Elements of the 101st Airborne Division continued to clean up pockets of resistance in the southern town of Hilla.

Iraqi Forces Update

- Organized resistance in Baghdad collapsed yesterday, leaving only unorganized pockets of resistance inside the city.
- U.S. officials believe that a brigade of the Republican Guard Adnan Mechanized Division as well as up to ten divisions of the regular Iraqi Army have withdrawn to the vicinity of Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, north of Baghdad, in order to prepare for what could be a last stand against U.S. forces.
- Scattered pockets of resistance, including some 1,500 to 2,000 fighters in Al Kut and elements of paramilitary forces in western Iraq, remain elsewhere in Iraq.

Sources: Unclassified Department of Defense Sources and Press Reports; map from *The Washington Post*.